The DX Bulletin

AMERICA'S OLDEST WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

ISSUE 254 SEPTEMBER 10, 1984

PROPAGATION: Sep 10, Low Normal; Sep 11, Below Normal; Sep 12, 13, Low Normal; Sep 14, High Normal; Sep 15, 16, Low Normal; Sep 17, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (80)	Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Date	Flux (84)	Alpha (84)	K (84)
192	241	171	104	8/30	89	20	3
208	240	177	102	8/31	90	20	3
211	244	182	102	9/1	91	13	3
226	239	169	111	9/2	92	12	3
228	225	173	109	9/3	92	16	3
221	223	188	105	9/4	93	15	2
214	245	177	109	9/5	90	42	3

SAN FIASCO

CEØAA from Chile's San Felix Island came on on schedule September 3, concurrently with major political unrest in Chile itself. Herewith the straight dope on how to work them:

Max and Fernando are not "real hams" in the traditional sense. While one or both of them knows CW, they are not familiar with amateur radio procedures. For example, their chosen operating frequency of 14.034 MHz is not the standard DXpedition frequency, and their choice of split, "UP 70 KHz," was enough to fool even the most experienced of CW operators. We measured their sending speed the first morning at twelve w.p.m.

CEØAA was also reported on 7070 KHz CW and on 15 Meters; the first one was definitely bogus and the second one is in doubt. Furthermore, the 20 Meter CW signal was quite weak, while their 20 Meter SSB has been over S9...more doubts.

As for SSB, it's lists or nothing, at this point. Naturally, some amateurs were observed trying to get on lists for CEØAA even before the station had made an initial appearance on any band. Best bets seem to be 21.335 around 1800Z, and 14.236, with lists taken at both 2200Z and 2330Z; CEØAA shows later, often several hours later. And not only are the pileups to get on the lists excruciatingly slow, but running of the lists is even slower, with much Spanish-language kibitzing between QSOs.

As we go to press (Sept 7), CEØAA has moved to 21.010 on CW, listening 040-060. Their code speed has picked up, too. On SSB lists, pandemonium reigns and the list-masters are bickering among themselves as to just who has control of the situation.

ALBANIA rumors continue unabated, Martti Laine said to be heading to Tirana again this month. Several German amateurs have also been mentioned as possibilities.

HOW TO WORK CHINA: get together with several ham friends and write a letter to BY1PK; suggest a sked, on CW, for an obscure 20 Meter frequency, around 14-1600Z, on several succeeding Saturday mornings. The fact is, BY1PK has a good signal in North America, they are amenable to Skeds, but they have virtually ceased all general operating appearances (as has BY8AA).

VR6KY and FW8AF are regular check-ins to a KB7SO net, 14.240, 0500Z Tuesdays.

Franz Josef Land stations include RZ1OWA and R1O; both like 14.035 around 2300Z.

Low Band DXers meeting Sat, Sep 15, at the Wang Country Club in Groton Mass; starts at noon, more info from K2RR in Greenville NH or KE1Y in Tewksbury Mass.

VE3FXT says he'll begin travels Oct 15, to continue one year, and will operate from 100 DXCC countries, starting with GW3WNE, GD4WNE, GM3WNE, then into Europe. DXers working him from a hundred countries will receive a "gold medal." QSL info later.

4M5ARV/6 operation earlier this year from Churum Vega, the highest waterfall in the world, features a three-part, full-color QSL; they're going into the mails now.

W9DXCC PROGRAM (Sep 15) includes W1CF (Low Band expert), KN8Z (Design Electronics Ohio), JA1IST (Kenwood), W9QSL Bureau, Advisory Committees, K2GL contest station film, 9N1MM, and, banquet speaker Fred Laun, K3ZO (exLU5HFI, HS1ABD, etc). K9KM for details.

DXPRESS is reporting that old-timer OE6EEG is in touch with a resident of S. Yemen (70) who hopes to be licensed sometime later this year. The last known operation from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (then Aden) was VS9ARS, 'way back in 1967.

QST will shortly announce a "call for comments" regarding the opening of the 24 MHz band; most are aware that lack of activity on 10 MHz is in part due to no awards credit there, and the situation on 24 MHz may reflect that knowledge. Your comments will be invited.

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MORE ABOUT BY1PK

"I HAVE JUST RETURNED from a trip to the People's Republic of China, where I was very pleased to learn that BY1PK in Beijing is set up for OSCAR 10 operations.

"I was there with my wife and three children and we spent a fascinating afternoon at the BY1PK station. Our guide, after quite a bit of investigation, finally discovered the address and telephone number of the Institute where the station is located and set up an appointment for us to meet the three key men, Mr. Ton, Mr. Wang, and Mr. yan.

"We were about half an hour late because our driver could not find the Institute, and I was very embarrassed that Mr. Wang had been waiting out on the street for us. He led us up the five flights of stairs for some tea and discussion of Amateur Radio.

"Going into the building, we could see an array of 435 MHz and 145 MHz circularly-polarized antennas with azimuth and elevation rotors and a large tribander. Thus, when we sat down for tea, I immediately asked about their OSCAR 10 operations. Unfortunately, communication was quite difficult, since our guide knew no ham radio terms and since the Chinese hams spoke only Chinese. We did understand, however, that they had no way of figuring out where the satellite was. I offered to send them a printout for the next 18 months, and they were extremely happy.

"With this promise, we moved into the shack--and to my amazement, not only did they have an array of very fancy and complete HF, VHF, and UHF equipment, but also on a table to the left was an Apple II which VE7BC had given to the station. I exclaimed immediately that they oculd use the Apple to locate OSCAR 10, but they said that the computer did not work since it was missing a part.

"Meanwhile, however, my 11-year old daughter had located a pile of about ten disks, had inserted one of them, and was playing Pacman. Thus, the computer was working. To boot, one of the disks was marked 'W3IWI.' My 15-year old son had soon pushed his sister aside trying to run Tom's program, but the disk would not boot. We needed DOS and there was no Apple disk to be found. A careful testing of all the disks which were there, however, led to the discovery of DOS 3.3 on one of the game disks, and we were in business.

"The next problem was that the only orbital elements on the disk were for OSCARs 7, 8, and the famous ;submarine trajectory' into the water which W3IWI had inserted in the early version of his program. Where could we find a new set of elements? I knew that QST had published them last year, and I had seen a copy of QST in the shack, but I was afraid that they had stopped publishing them this year. I was wrong, however. The March QST set forth a full set of Keplerian elements, signed by Phil Karn and ten minutes later, after computing the latitude and longitude of Beijing the little Apple was printing out up-to-date tracking. Unfortunately, the satellite was not within our range.

"Our next challenge was to teach the Chinese how to run the program and with our French speaking guide, to whom we translated the program, the Chinese hams taking notes in their language, it took about two hours before they were running the program. Once it was running, however, it would be hard to describe their joy. They insisted that I sit down and play on HF.

"By this time it was 1630 GMT. The band was open to the West Coast and I had a wonderful time. Unfortunately for DX lovers, I prefer talking to working a pileup and I spoke to five hams and unsuccessfully tried to raise a fellow ham from 9-Land. Only Californians seemed awake.

"Our new Chinese friends would have been very happy for me to stay, but we had another commitment. They had me sign a form in Chinese which I could not understand but which they explained gave me the right to operate the station and they invited me back as soon as possible.

"Obviously, I now hope to work them on OSCAR 10, but I am afraid that will be very difficult, since their English pretty much rules out SSB contacts, and my CW is nil. I have written them, however, and hope to hear back."

--Bill Brown, K9LF

(This letter reprinted with permission of Amateur Satellite Report newsletter).

AMATEUR RADIO IN THAILAND

SEVERAL SOURCES have recently shed some light on HS activity, which ceased on December 31, 1982. Tony Waltham, HS1AMH, writing in 73 Magazine's "73 International" column, mentions that the only legal HF activity since the end of 1982 has been specially authorized for contests such as the All Asia and the CQ WW DX Contests. Waltham reports that Thai Director General of the Posts and Telegraph Department, Mahidol Chantrangkul, recently told a "group of prominent amateurs ...that he 'intended to legalize HF for amateur radio by the end of this year.'"

Meanwhile, there is activity in Thailand on 2 Meter FM. The government, specifically the military, has been worried that citizens' use of radios might enable them to have communications during coup d' etat attempts, but on 2 Meter FM that is not a problem, as only five fixed channels are allowed and the authorities have tape recorders running on those channels!

continued next page...

BANDPASS: Call/Frèquency/UTC (plus West, Mountain, Central, East report)/Date

A22WZ 14204 13C 1
A35EB 14264 04W 31
A4XKD 14185 02E 23
BY4AA 14155 12E 25
BY5RA 14178 13E 29
BY1PK 14032 14M 31
BY5RA 14180 12E 2
CE8ABF 3795 06E 1
CEØERY 14196 02W 24
CEØERY 14195 02E 2
CEØGBL 14243 01E 2
CO8UA 14028 00E 27
CP8HD 1830 04E 26
CT2QN 14009 21E 27
C21FS 21240 02W 3
C21FC 14309 03W 3
KA5BPE/
C6A 14174 12E 3
KF6ME/
DU2 7008 12M 1
EA3VY 1850 08E 4
G6ZY/
EA6 14025 01E 30
EA6KZ 7012 03E 1

EA8AGH 14052 01E 24
EA8FO 14041 23E 27
EA8ABG 14028 22E 31
EA9AM 14208 23E 30
EL1G 14228 01E 4
FB8WK 7010 13M 28
FB8WK 7010 13M 1
FGØHJV 14037 13E 26
FG7BM 14009 02E 29
FG7BG 3509 03E 1
FK8CE 14011 06W 30
FM4DJ 14049 13E 26
FO8EM 14211 03E 28
FOØGAD 14216 02C 29
FR7BP 7007 13M 31
FW8AF 14236 03E 25
FW8AF 14237 03E 1

F6GXB/
TK 14006 17E 26
(Corsica)
F6GXB/
TK 14025 22E 31
GJ4YBM 14046 21E 26
GJ4YBM 14021 22E 28
GU4YBW 14045 22E 26

HI8LC 14025 22E 26
HI3PC 14040 22E 31
HKØHEU 14309 02E 26
HKØBKX 14010 00E 29
HKØHEU 14227 15W 1
HKØHEU 14170 13C 1
HKØHEU 3800 04E 3
HKØBKX 14021 13E 4
HL4XM 14027 14E 3
HL1CG 14037 12E 3
HZ1AB 14030 20E 25
HZ1AB 7002 01M 26
HZ1AB 14029 16E 26
HZ1HZ 14036 19E 26
H44IA 7008 12M 27
H44IA 7005 12M 30
H44IA 14049 04C 1
IØJU/
ISØ 14205 22W 25
ISØOMH 14025 22E 31
JW6BAA 14227 16W 23
J28EB 7010 03E 30
J88AQ 14175 11E 1
AH6FG 3783 09E 1
KH6AT 3785 07E 4
AH8A 14309 04W 3
AH9AB 14309 03W 28

KC6JA 14309 04W 3
(E. Carolines)
KX6AO 14309 04W 3
LX1CU 14036 22E 26
OX3UD 14042 17E 26
OX3UD 14029 02E 29

OX3PO 14176 01E 3
PZ1DV 14028 02E 28
P29KY 7014 11E 26
P29JS 7006 12M 31
SV1JG/
SV5 14024 22E 26
S79WHW 14192 16W 26
TF3SV 14030 00E 27
TF3SD 3788 05E 4
TI4BGA 14023 13E 2
TU2AB 7025 02E 26
TU2AB 7001 03E 28
TU1BS 21254 19E 3
TZ6FE 21335 14W 2
T32AF 7024 05W 30
T32AF 7017 05W 31
T32AB 21208 19E 3
UF6FJ 14185 20M 26
UF6DA 14011 14E 26
UD7DWA 14012 11E 23
UL7GBN 14035 01E 26
UH8EWW 14034 14C 1
UI8OAA 7023 01E 1
RL8PYL 14014 13E 26
UM8MO 14031 01E 26
UM8MM 14016 14E 2
RFØFWW 14024 19E 26
UV9BA 7009 14M 1
VP2MDY 14050 01E 28
VQ9DX 14025 22E 31
VR6TC 14175 03M 30
VR6TC 14179 02W 2
VS6DX 14230 13E 26
VU2BIT 14010 02E 26
WB9IHH/
V2A 14035 12E 28

XT2BR 14170 00M 26
YCØVM 7014 11E 25
YB5ASO 7001 11E 1
(Daily)
YI1BGD 14215 23E 30
YJ8TT 14309 04C 1

YN1CC 14020 00E 27
ZC4BI 14018 22E 26
ZF1LA 14028 03E 28
ZK1CG 21345 00W 3
ZL8BA 14202 04C 1
F6EYS/
3A 7001 22E 2
3B8DB 7005 03E 30
3B8DB 7005 13M 31
4K1GAG 14197 11E 5
(S. Shetlands)
4Z4AB 14038 22E 25
4X6JS 7034 03E 1
5H3VB 21237 20E 3
KC7UU/
5N6 14236 23E 30
5NØHAS 7005 01E 31
5W1DZ 14179 03W 3
5Z4MX 14022 13E 26
5Z4JD 21280 18E 3
6Y5IC 3785 05E 2
7X4BL 14015 00E 37
8Q7AV 14210 19E 3
9J2BO 14018 13C 1
9M2HB 14226 14M 28
9M2RT 7002 13M 28

NOTE: this is a change: please mail reports on Fri or Sat to reach TDXB by Tuesdays.

Or phone:

203-742-7124

(24 hours).

Director-General Chantrangkul was quoted in the Bangkok Post as trying to convince the government that "amateur radio operations were beneficial, in terms of telecommunications technology and social development. Mr. Mahidol observed that amateur radio operators would "not be allowed to operate as freely as in the United States, but they would have more scope than under the existing regulations." He noted that his department is considering setting up a training course for those interested in becoming "VHF volunteer radio operators."

Thailand's heyday of amateur radio, in the 1970's, was, according to one American there during that period, a result of the efforts of the late General Kamchai Chotikul, HS1WR. He was a respected member of the military and was able to provide a believable "guarantee" that amateur radio would not be used for coups d' etat. When the General died, says our source, amateur radio lost its best spokesman. Simultaneously, a feud began among members of RAST, Thailand's amateur society, and the authorities told the hams they should stay off the air and bring their gear in for impoundment. And that's where matters stand today, almost two years later.

Occasionally, HS stations are heard on the HF bands, and they are likely to be foreigners licensed before the "voluntary ban." While the Thai authorities leave these operators alone, their operations are "not authorized." Some Americans in particular, including those selling weapons to the Thais, can operate if they want to.

We fully expect to see Thailand appear in the TDXB Top 73 next year, as newcomers will not have been around pre-1983. Meanwhile, the biggest demand is for a CQ Zone 26 contact, particularly on 40 and 80 Meters for the 5-Band WAZ award. Two upcoming authorized operations may be helpful: HSØHS is expected to be on for the CQ 'Phone Contest at the end of October, and HSØA is slated for the CQ CW 'Test the last weekend of November. These are likely to be multi-operator efforts and to include Thais, Japanese, Americans, and possibly others.

C A L E N D A R

US PHONE BANDS	Expanded Sept 1; Issue 248
KERMADEC	ZL8AFH has left; ZL8BA reported this week
PITCAIRN	ZL1AMO expedition cancelled
UGANDA	5X5GK on 20/15 SSB; no DXCC credit; KC7UU trying
CAMBODIA	XU1SS skeds resume this week, 14.245/1200Z
S SHETLANDS	4K1GAG on 20 SSB, 40/80 CW
ANTIGUA	KA2DIV/V2A started Sept 1 for several months
MONACO	By F6EYS and F6HIX ends Sep 11
WILLIS	VK9ZA scarce, need reports
OBLAST 046	UI8C expedition Sep 6-30
CHINA	Skeds: DU9RG, 14.155 or 14.180 Wed/Sat, 1200Z
BURUNDI	9U5JB due back on this month
CANADA	May use special prefixes XJ/ XK, etc, Sep 9-20
MALAWI	7Q7LW due back on end of September
NIGER	5U7LD may reappear this month, no DXCC yet
GLORIOSO	Weak rumors of a Fall operation
W9DXCC	Glen Ellyn Ill, Sep 15, K9KM for details
CROZET	FB8WJ/WK leave in Nov; logs on boat this week
UAE	No reports yet on G3LCS/A6
CONTEST	CAN-AM Phone Sep 15/16
ST KITTS	Rumored prefix switches to V4A-V4Z Sep 17
LEICHTENSTEIN	HBØNL (HB9NL) Sep 19-Oct 14
CONTEST	CAN-AM CW Sep 22/23
ANDAMANS	Petitions denied, Indians still trying for '84
MALDIVES	8Q7 by PA3DEV Sep 27-Oct 16
DEADLINE	DXCC QSLs to Newington Sep 28 for Dec list; Issue 253
CONVENTION	DXPO 84, Falls Church VA Oct 13/14
SAO TOME	WB7RFA trying for Oct 23-Nov 6; I250
S COOKS	ZK1XC/XD by PA3BKM, PA3DHH, Oct 23-Nov 5
MELLISH	OCt 25-Nov 6; I251
TAIWAN	Expedition led by K7UGA in Nov; maybe an Oct one
160 Meters	DXCC endorsable starting Nov 1
DINNER	New England DXCC, Nov 10, Boston area; details later
S YEMEN	Rumors of a resident licensee later this year

C O N T R I B U T O R S

KA1BU, KB1BE, PP2ZDD, WB8ZRL, K1XM, W7HRD, KH6BZF, OA4KO/YV5, AI3E, K3ZO, K1ST, W4VQ, KE9A, KC7WG, KA1XN, KØCVD, AE1H, N4NO, N4KG, K4BAI, W7YF, WØJRN, KS1Y, KA1SR, K1JA, K6IR, WA8CZS, WA2VUY, W1WY, WA9OVU.

Q S L S

CE9AH via Radio Club de Chile, PO BOX 13630, Santiago.

CEØAA (San Felix) to Radio Club de Chile, Box 700, Santiago

FPØHWT NOT via AA6D

EL2A 20 CW recently NOT via W3BL

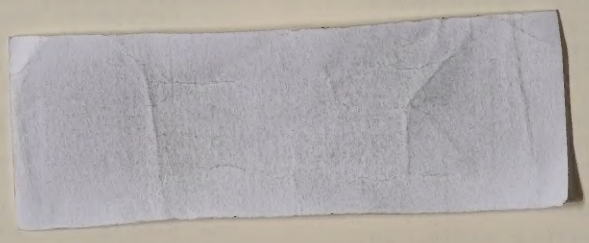
Still looking for info on W9WNV 1960's logs...1M4A and VR5AB may be via K4IKR, and VQ8CBN may be via WØBN

OFFICIAL address for YVØAA: Radio Club Venezolano QSL Bureau, PO Box 2285, Caracas 1010-A.

KA4SBE/SU QSLs are currently NOT GOOD for DXCC in Newington; awaiting documentation

NEEDED: current holder of logs for 1972 San Felix operation of W9GW and K9KNW; contact TDXB

IRCs for sale: 35 cents each, minimum 20, from Bernie Mclenny, WB3JRU, 1014 Gadsden Ave, Silver Spring MD 20304



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